

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111  
08/921,533  
02880/158**

0600. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.111(a), Applicant also respectfully requests entry of the following amendments and reconsideration of the present application.

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**IN THE CLAIMS:**

*Sub 151*  
*Σ'*  
Claim 1. (Four Times Amended) A biodegradable and bioactive composite material for surgical osteosynthesis applications comprising: i) at least one resorbable polymeric matrix component, ii) at least one oriented resorbable polymeric reinforcing component and iii) at least one bioceramic or bioglass reinforcing component mixed with said matrix component.

*Σ<sup>2</sup>*  
Claim 16. (Four Times Amended) A biodegradable and bioactive composite material for surgical osteosynthesis applications comprising: i) at least one resorbable polymeric matrix component, ii) at least one oriented resorbable polymeric reinforcing component in fiber form, and iii) at least one bioceramic or bioglass reinforcing component mixed with said matrix component, the diameter of the oriented resorbable polymeric reinforcing component being greater than the diameter or particle size of the bioceramic or bioglass reinforcing component.

**REMARKS**

Applicants would like to initially express their gratitude to Examiner Channavajjala and Examiner Kishore for the courtesies extended during the personal interview of August 29, 2002. Claims 1-22 are pending in the current application and claims 1 and 16 have been amended by